FIRMAN, K. Appl. No. 09/992,028 December 23, 2003

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please insert at page 1, line 9 as follows:

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION** 

Please insert at page 8, line 3 as follows:

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION** 

Please insert at page 25, line 23 as follows:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS AND EXAMPLES

Page 26, line 1, amend to read:

following non-limiting examples, and with reference to Figure 1 which shows plasmid pCFD30 used in displacement assays.